Sl. No.	Year	Place of Accident	Nature of Accident	Substance Involved	Number of		
					Death	Injury	Evacuation
17.	1990	Calcutta	Leakage	Ammonia	—	120	—
18.	1990	Nagothane	Leakage	C_3-C_4	32	22	—
19.	1991	Bhopal	Leakage	LPG	—	180	—
20.	1991	Bombay-Ahmedabad Highway	Transport	LNG	100	—	—
21.	1992	Panipat	Release	Ammonia	10	—	—
22.	1993	Kalyan Maharashtra	Release	Sulphuric Acid	9	123	—
23.	1994	Delhi	Release	Metal Fumes	4	—	—

(b) This list excludes 539 minor accidents involving chemicals reported under the Factories Act, 1948, during the same period as per reports available with this Ministry.

Pollution in the Capital

2191. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleaed to state :

(a) whether living in Delhi turns out to be highly hazardous due to the alarming rise in air, water and noise pollution propelled by soaring human and vehicular population and mushrooming of industrial units;

(b) whether an estimated 2000 metric tonnes of pollutants are emitted in the atmosphere every day in Delhi.

(c) if so, what are the facts and details in this regard;

(d) whether there has been phenomenal increase in the cases of respiratory problems in Delhi due to polluted atmosphere, if so, what is the number of such persons including children who are exposed to high doses of atmospsheric pollution;

(e) whether the level pollution is also aggravated by industrial waste, hospital waste dumps and other slum dumps in verious parts of the city and if so, what preventing steps have been taken in this regard; and

(f) how Government propose to save the lives of the people from the hazards of atmostpheric pollution and what steps have been taken to control the air, water and noise pollution in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) It is true that levels of pollution have risen due to increasing human vehicular and industrial popuation in the capital.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Major sources of air pollution in Delhi are vehicles, thermal power plants, industries and domestic coal burnings. It is estimated that 2000 metric tonnes of pollutants are emitted into the atmosphere everyday. Of these pollutants Carbon monoxide, oxides of Nitrogen, Hydrocarbon and Sulphur dioxide contribute to 1063, 323, 320 and 179 tonnes per day respectively. Of the total pollution load, vehicular sources contribute 64%, thermal power plants 16%, industries 12% and domestic sectors 7%.

(d) The Government has not undertaken any comprehensive study which would indicate the increase in respiratory disorders in Delhi due to atmospheric pollution. However, a study undertaken by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences has concluded that respiratory disorders are caused by multiple factors such as congested housing, poor economic condition, cooking fuel etc. alongwith air pollutants.

(e) There has been a more than 500% increase in industrial units from 18,500 in 1961 to 93,000 in 1993. Waste from these industries have aggravated the level of pollution. Central Pollution Control Board has estimated that 5,600 metric tonnes per day of fly ash and 4,000 metric tonnes per day of municipal refuse are generated in Delhi. Government of India have notified the Hazardous wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 under the Environment (Protection) act, 1986 which provides for regulating the generation, collection, storage, transport, treatment, disposal and import of hazardous westes which include hospital wastes.

(f) The steps taken by the Government to control pollution in Delhi include the following :

(i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed.

(ii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(iv) Industries have been directed to instal necessary pollution control equipment on a time bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.

(v) 17 categories of heavily polluting industries have been identified and these industries have been asked by the State Governments to comply with the effluent standards on a time bound basis.

(vi) A scheme has been initiated to give assistance to clusters of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants.

(vii) Several petrol stations have been identified for supplying unleaded petrol for use in new petrol driven vehicles with catalytic converters from April, 1995.

(viii) Notification of ambient air quality standards have been issued.

(ix) Government of India has notified noise standards for industrial, commercial and residential areas and silence zones.

Creation of City Forest

2192. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to create City Forest;

(b) whether any such scheme has been sponsored by the Central Government;

(c) if so, the details of such scheme and the fund earmarked therefor;

(d) whether any such scheme is being implemented in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Some of the State Governments had approached the Government of India for financial assistance to enable them to take up programmes for creating City Forests in certain towns and cities of those States. The Ministry of Environment and Forests also felt that the national afforestation effort requires action in urban and semi-urban areas, alongwith ongoing efforts in rural areas. The National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (N.A.E.B.) has, therefore, forwarded a proposal to the Planning Commission for a new Plan Scheme for providing central assistance to the State Governments. No fund has so far been earmarked in this behalf.

(d) No Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Scheme of City Forest is under implementation in Orissa.

(e) Does not arise.

Scheme on "Modern Forest Fire Control Methods"

2193. K. M. KHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some Scheme on "Modern Forest Fire Control Methods" with Central Assistance has been launched in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether some facilities have been provided to States and Union Territory under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to launch this scheme in Non-Forest areas of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A centrally sponsored scheme "Modern Forest Fire Control Methods" has been launched in 11 States namely : Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, U. P. and Tamil Nadu of the country. The main components of this scheme are Prevention, Detection and Suppression of forests fires, Research and Development, Training and Demonstration, Publicity, Extension and Education of forest dwellers.

(c) and (d) Under the Scheme 100% financial assistance is provided to the States and Union Territorise for creation and maintenance of fire lines, procurement of Modern Forest Fire Fighting hand tools, water handling equipments, fire finders, fire tenders, static and mobile wireless sets, fire resistant clothing, construction of watch towers, Research, Training and Demonstration.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Mandate of Ministry of Environment and forest does not cover fire protection in non-forest area.